

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 ARA-10

EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 /143 W
----- 051702

R 241145Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6352
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMCONSUL DOUALA BY POUCH

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 2522

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, CM

SUBJ: EXPORT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

REFS: A) STATE 146681

B) YAOUNDE 417, DTD FEB 12, 1974

C) YAOUNDE A-7, DTD FEB 9, 1974

1. REF B EXPLAINED THAT FOREIGN EXPORT CONTROLS EXERCISED IN CAMEROON ARE LARGELY DUTIES AND FEES FOR REVENUE PURPOSES AND CERTAIN SANITARY REGULATIONS TO INSURE HEALTH STANDARDS OF EXPORT COMMODITIES. REF C IS A LIST BOTH OF NATIONAL EXPORT TAXES AND COMMON SANITARY MEASURES THAT CAMEROON ADHERES TO UNDER THE UNION DOUANIERE ET ECONOMIQUE DE L'AFRIQUE CENTRALE (UDEAC) CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

2. AS REQUESTED IN REF A, EMBASSY HERewith LISTS REVISIONS TO CAMEROON EXPORT TAXES PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED BY REF C.

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BTN NUMBERS COMMODITY EXPORT TAX

(CONVENTIONAL VALUE)

09-01-11 TO 09-01-59	COFFEE	40 PERCENT
18-01-01 TO 18-01-19	COCOA	40 PERCENT
12-01-05	PALM NUTS AND	10 PERCENT
	PALM KERNELS	
15-07-04	PALM OIL	8.75 PERCENT
44-03-01 TO 44-03-99	UNDRESSED LOGS	10 PERCENT (MARKET PRICE)
N/A	LOGS PROCESSED	5 PERCENT (MARKET PRICE)
	LOCALLY	
N/A	RECOVERED LOGS	10 PERCENT (MARKET PRICE)
N/A	SPECIAL TIMBER	10 PERCENT (MARKET PRICE)
	(EBONY, AWONG	
	AND OTHER SIM-	
	ILAR SPECIES)	

3. ABOVE EXPORT TAXES SET FORTH IN THE FINANCE LAW NO. 75/3 OF JUNE 28, 1975. TIMBER EXPORT TAXES REDUCED BY GOVERNMENT ORDER EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 2, 1975 TO (1) ENCOURAGE TIMBER EXPORTS IN PRESENT DEPRESSED INTERNATIONAL MARKET AND (2) STIMULATE LOCAL TIMBER PROCESSING. COFFEE AND COCOA EXPORT TAXES RAISED BY SIX PERCENT AND PALM NUTS AND KERNELS AND PALM OIL INCREASED BY 1.25 AND 2 PERCENT, RESPECTIVELY, FOR REVENUE PURPOSES.

4. DIRECTOR OF COMMERCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT THERE WERE EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON PALM PRODUCTS TO INSURE SUPPLIES TO LOCAL MARKET BUT THAT THESE QUOTAS VARY ACCORDING TO DEMAND AND HE UNABLE GIVE EXACT FIGURES. HE ALSO SAID THAT SUGAR IS EXPORTED LEGALLY ONLY THROUGH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. BOTH THESE EXPORT RESTRICTIONS EXIST BECAUSE OF WIDE PRICE DIFFERENTIALS BETWEEN LOCAL AND EXPORT PRICES.

5. SINCE ALL ABOVE COMMODITIES BUT SUGAR ARE TRADED COMPETITIVELY ON WORLD MARKET, IT IS DOUBTFUL IF REVENUE EXPORT TAXES HAVE MUCH OF DISTORTION EFFECT ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE. EXPORT TAXES ARE ASSESSED ON BASIS OF CONVENTIONAL VALUE OF PRODUCT, WHICH IN CASE OF MAJOR COFFEE AND COCOA EXPORTS ARE NEAR PRODUCER GUARANTEED PRICE WHICH IS USUALLY CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN WORLD MARKET PRICE. DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LOCAL COSTS INCLUDING EXPORT TAXES, AND WORLD PRICE FOR COCOA AND COFFEE ACCRUES TO STABILIZATION

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FUNDS. CAMEROON IS SMALL SUGAR PRODUCER (30,000 METRIC TONS) AND PRESENTLY NET IMPORTER (15,000 METRIC TONS), SO ITS EXPORT RESTRICTION IS IMPORTANT ONLY TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, SOME OF WHICH ARE ALLOWED TO IMPORT CERTAIN AMOUNTS UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS.

MOORE

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